Application No. 10/815,382 Docket No. 15998.0023

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re Application of

Larry G. INGRAHAM

Group Art Unit: 3726

Serial No.: 10/815,382

Examiner: Jermie E. COZART

Filed: April 1, 2004

For: BASE SIGN WITH INTEGRAL SIGNAGE AND METHOD FOR ITS FABRICATION

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

By Official Action dated October 21, 2005, having a one-month shortened statutory period of response set to expire November 21, 2005, restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C.§ 121:

Group I. Claims 1-4 and 6-11, drawn to a method for fabricating a sign, classified in class 29, subclass 453; and

Group II. Claims 12-18 and 20, drawn to a sign, classified in class 40, subclass 584.

In response, Applicant hereby elects Group II; Claims 12-18 and 20 for examination in this case, with traverse.

According to the M.P.E.P. § 803, if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it may include claims to independent or distinct inventions.

The Examiner must show that there would be a serious burden if the restriction is not required. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner nowhere contends, let alone demonstrates that a search of all the pending claims would be a serious burden. Further, at the Examiner's disposal are powerful electronic search engines providing the Examiner with the



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ability to quickly and easily search all of the claims. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of all pending claims.

## **AUTHORIZATION**

No extension of time fee is believed due. The Commissioner is hereby authorized, however, to charge any extension of time fee or any additional fees which may be required for this Response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2036.

Respectfully submitted,

**BAKER & HOSTETLER LLP** 

P. Alan Larson

Registration No. 53,184

Date:

Washington Square, Suite 1100 1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20036 Tel: (202) 861-1500

Fax: (202) 861-1783